

REMARKS

This paper is filed responsive to the Office Action mailed May 24, 2004. Presently, claims 1, 4, 6 to 10 and 13 to 28 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 4, 6 and 13 to 28 stand allowed. Claims 7, 8 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 over the Werschmidt et al. US Patent No. 5,620,427. Claim 9 stands objected to. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections and request reconsideration and reexamination of the application.

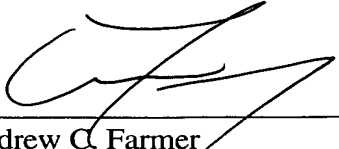
The Examiner has rejected claims 7, 8 and 10 as being anticipated by Werschmidt et al. By the present amendment claim 10 now depended from claim 1 rather than being independent and therefore incorporates all of the subject matter of claim 1, which the Examiner found allowable. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 7 is mooted. Applicants are confused as regards the rejection of claims 8 and 10 and the objection to claim 9. These claims each depend from claim 1 and thus contain all of the subject matter thereof. The Examiner has found this claim allowable over the art. Applicants surmise that the Examiner somehow incorrectly assumed that these claims depended from claim 7 rather than claim 1. In any event, Applicants submit that these claims patentably define over the art.

Responsibilities for prosecuting this case have been transferred from the Knobbe Martins firm to the patent law department at Johnson & Johnson. Accordingly it now bears the docket no. ASP-3 and Applicants request that this designator be updated in the PTO records.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is presently in condition for allowance and request favorable reconsideration and early notice of allowance. If it would be helpful, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


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